

The National Environmental Education Foundation is the nation's leading organization in lifelong environmental learning, connecting people to knowledge they use to improve the quality of their lives and the health of the planet. We achieve this by providing knowledge to trusted professionals and other leaders who, with their credibility, amplify messages to national audiences to solve everyday environmental problems.

NEEF's Children and Nature Initiative addresses two important issues—preventing serious health conditions like obesity and diabetes and connecting children to nature. NEEF is educating pediatric health care providers about the health benefits of nature and prescribing outdoor activities to children, and is partnering with the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Audubon Society, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other groups to provide easily accessible nature programs for their families.

NEEF trains pediatric health care providers to serve as Nature Champions in their communities and build capacity among other pediatric health care providers to be leaders in prescribing nature. NEEF provides pediatric health care providers with technical support, tools and resources, including:

- Prescription Pad: for health care professionals to prescribe time in nature (English and Spanish)
- Patient Brochure: connecting families to a local nature site (English and Spanish)
- Nature Champion Training PowerPoint
- NEEF's study "Using Nature and Outdoor Activity to Improve Children's Health" (Published in Current Problems in Pediatric and Adolescent Health Care 2010;5:102-117.)

All materials are available online: www.neefusa.org/health/children nature.

NEEF's Children and Nature Initiative is recognized as a model demonstration program by the National Park Service's Healthy Parks Healthy People US Strategic Action Plan. The Initiative is also listed as one of the top five effective partnerships and programs connecting Americans to the great outdoors by President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Report.

Learn more at www.neefusa.org, follow us on Facebook at http://ow.ly/7HjRX and Twitter @neefusa.